

79th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

THIRD SPECIAL SESSION

November 20, 1975

1. PRESIDENT:

2. Third Special Session will come to order. Reading of the  
3. Journal. Senator Johns.

4. SENATOR JOHNS:

5. Thank you, Mr. President. I move that reading and approval  
6. of the Journals of Tuesday, November the 18th, 1975, and Wednesday,  
7. November the 19th, 1975, be postponed pending arrival of the printed  
8. Journals.

9. PRESIDENT:

10. You heard the motion. All in favor say Aye. Opposed Nay.  
11. The motion carries. Senate Bills on 3rd reading. Page eleven.  
12. Third Special Session. Senate Bill 3, Senator Berning.

13. SENATOR BERNING:

14. Thank you, Mr. President. Recognizing that there is a  
15. distinct possibility we will not even be here in Session long enough,  
16. I at the same time, respectfully urge the members of the Senate to  
17. favorably vote on Senate Bill 3. This is an education bill. It does  
18. not, on the other hand, obligate the State to any expenditure. It simpl  
19. authorizes those school districts who previously had passed by  
20. referendum an increase in their rate and subsequently denied the use  
21. of that by the new resource equalizer legislation. To...

22. PRESIDENT:

23. One moment, Senator.

24. SENATOR BERNING:

25. ...go ahead...

26. PRESIDENT:

27. One moment, Senator. Senators Chew and Davidson, now that the  
28. conference has diminished by...to less Senators than Staff, we'll  
29. remove the Staff off the Floor and talk to them over there.

30. Continue, Senator Berning. Senator Berning.

31. SENATOR BERNING:

32. Thank you, Mr. President. I repeat, this bill ought to be  
33. considered on its own merits and recognizing the limitations of

1. our Session, this is undoubtedly, the last moment for consideration  
2. of this bill - does only one thing. It eliminates that roll  
3. back provision which has denied some seventy school districts in the  
4. State of Illinois, the right to use a rate increase which has been  
5. previously authorized by a referendum held within their school district.  
6. It's not going to cost the State any money, and it is vital  
7. for some of those districts such as in my area, where they have  
8. now not only been denied the use of the rate their voters have author-  
9. ized, but by the same...at the same time, have been denied the State  
10. funds they were expecting. They have been doubly penalized.  
11. This will be of help. And, Mr. President, if anybody did hear me,  
12. I would appreciate them seriously responding on a...with a favorable  
13. vote to this problem.

14. PRESIDENT:

15. Senator Glass.

16. SENATOR GLASS:

17. Well, thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen. I would  
18. like to rise in support of this bill of Senator Berning's, Senate  
19. Bill 3. This is a critical issue, also, in my district, and I would  
20. urge favorable consideration of it. It does something that is  
21. essential to local government. And that is it gives back the people  
22. in a school district the right to determine for themselves what  
23. level of education programs they're willing to support by their  
24. own taxes. That's very simply what it does. As I say, it's the  
25. essence of giving local control to school districts. Costs  
26. absolutely no State money. Many of our administrators, educators,  
27. teachers, school board members, would be grateful to the General  
28. Assembly for supporting this legislation and giving back that local  
29. control. We would urge an Aye vote.

30. PRESIDENT:

31. Any further discussion? Senator Rock.

32. SENATOR ROCK:

33. Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate.

1. I rise in opposition to Senate Bill 3, in the Third Special  
2. Session. And while I'm reluctant to oppose, what appears to be  
3. a meritorious provision that is contained in this bill, I would  
4. point out that Senator...Representative Berman as part of the  
5. publicly offered accommodation on the Floor of the House, has  
6. successfully passed a bill, 3202, which has now arrived here, and I would  
7. suggest that rather than dealing with these various questions  
8. piecemeal, we might be better advised to take up that bill along  
9. with the whole override question. This...this affects about  
10. eighty school districts in the State, I am told. Frankly, it does  
11. not affect anyone in my district, but I think that a piecemeal  
12. approach at this eleventh hour is simply not the way...not  
13. the way to go. Now, the accommodation has been proffered and passed  
14. by the House. The bill is over here now, and I think we...we would be  
15. better served by dealing with...with Representative Berman's bill,  
16. and for that reason, I intend to withhold my vote on Senate Bill 3.

17. PRESIDENT:

18. Any further discussion? Senator Harris.

19. SENATOR HARRIS:

20. Thank you, Mr. President. I would respond to Senator Rock's  
21. comments about...the...efficacy of House Bill 3202, Representative  
22. Berman's bill. There is another provision in that bill which,  
23. I think a good many of us find objectionable, and that is the  
24. stretchout provision. This bill deals exclusively with the question  
25. of eliminating the rollback and no more. I think most of us want  
26. to see the reaching of the full operation of the resource equalizer  
27. schedule, that is the four year program, rather than a five  
28. year program, and Representative Berman's bill does have in it that  
29. undesirable element. I would urge the membership to...

30. PRESIDENT:

31. Please...

32. SENATOR HARRIS:

33. ...that...

1. PRESIDENT:

2. Take your conferences back, please.

3. SENATOR HARRIS:

4. I would urge the membership that in fact, there is intelligence  
5. in dealing with these measures on a somewhat piecemeal basis and  
6. that's...that should have no commentative suggestion in the negative  
7. by its description that way by me. This is a bill urgently requested  
8. by some seventy school districts who wish to have the option to visit  
9. on themselves a full degree of educational enrichment, that they, by  
10. their decision, wish to implement. And I would, in fact, urge the  
11. membership of the Senate, to support Senator Berning in this  
12. effort to pass this bill today. This is the last practical  
13. hour that it can be considered if we are going to adjourn on Saturday.  
14. It's a good bill, and I hope it would be supported.

15. PRESIDENT:

16. Any further discussion? Senator Berning.

17. SENATOR BERNING:

18. Thank you, Mr. President. Let me just emphasize that it is  
19. a single item bill. Nothing is attached to it. And a piecemeal  
20. approach is a poor definition for it. In fact, 3202, very likely,  
21. is more of a piecemeal approach considering the total educational  
22. picture. I would urgently request that you allow these people  
23. to utilize that tax rate that they have decided to impose on themselves.  
24. I'd appreciate a favorable roll call.

25. PRESIDENT:

26. Question is shall Senate Bill 3 pass. Those in favor vote  
27. Aye. Opposed Nay. The voting is open. Call the roll.

28. SECRETARY:

29. (Machine cut off) Berning, Bloom, Brady, Bruce, Buzbee,  
30. Carroll, Chew, Clarke, Course, Daley, Davidson, Demuzio, Donnewald,  
31. Dougherty, Egan, Fawell, Glass, Graham, Harber Hall, Kenneth Hall,  
32. Harris, Hickey, Hynes, Johns, Joyce, Knuppel, Kosinski, Lane,  
33. Latherow, Lemke, McCarthy, Merritt, Mitchler, Howard Mohr, Don Moore,

1. Morris, Netsch, Newhouse, Nimrod, Nudelman, Ozinga, Palmer,  
2. Philip, Regner, Rock, Roe, Romano, Savickas, Schaffer, Shapiro,  
3. Smith, Sommer, Soper, Vadalabene, Weaver, Welsh, Wooten, Mr. President.  
4. PRESIDENT:  
5. Vadalabene, Present. Brady, Present. Brady, Aye. I'm sorry.  
6. Hall, Present. Lane, Aye. Merritt, Present. Senator Berning.  
7. SENATOR BERNING:  
8. Mr. President, would you call the absentees, please.  
9. PRESIDENT:  
10. Call the absentees.  
11. SECRETARY:  
12. Chew, Course, Daley, Donnewald, Egan, Hynes, Knuppel, Kosinski,  
13. Lemke, McCarthy, Morris, Newhouse, Nudelman, Palmer, Roe, ...  
14. PRESIDENT:  
15. Please...  
16. SECRETARY:  
17. Romano...  
18. PRESIDENT:  
19. ...give the Secretary the opportunity to concentrate on what  
20. he's doing.  
21. SECRETARY:  
22. Savickas, Smith, Vadalabene.  
23. PRESIDENT:  
24. On this question the Ayes are 29, the Nays are 6, with 8 Present.  
25. Senate Bill 3, having failed to receive a constitutional majority  
26. is declared lost. Senate Bill 4, Senator Berning.  
27. SENATOR BERNING:  
28. Mr. President, I would assume that I will be fortunate if I  
29. get the same treatment and with leave of the Body, I'll take the same  
30. roll call so as not to impose any additional time burden on my colleagues.  
31. PRESIDENT:  
32. For what purpose does Senator Rock arise?  
33. SENATOR ROCK:

1. Well, I think the idea is a good one, certainly, and I would  
2. not oppose it. I would point out, however, to those who were  
3. affirmative on Senate Bill 3, that Senate Bill 4, in fact, involves  
4. a local tax increase and they may wish to reconsider that aspect  
5. of this bill if they were affirmative on the first roll call.  
6. I appreciate that it's a referendum.

7. PRESIDENT:

8. Does anybody desire to change his vote? Same roll call.  
9. Is leave granted to apply the same roll call? Leave is granted.  
10. On this question, the Ayes are 29, they Nays were...Nays were 6,  
11. with 8 Voting Present. Senate Bill 4, having failed to receive  
12. a constitutional majority is declared lost. Senate Bill 5, Senator  
13. Buzbee. No call. Senate Bill 6, Senator Buzbee. No call.  
14. Any further business to come before the Third Special Session?  
15. The Third Special Session will stand in adjournment until tomorrow  
16. morning at 11:30. The Senate is adjourned.

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